



January 2016

OLALO of ...
(Luo)

BRIDGE of...
(English ☺)

HOPE

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, such sacrifices are pleasing to God. Hebrews 13:16

You Made It All Possible...

Your support and your prayers through 2015 impacted lives of both young and old in Oyugis, Kenya and made many lives better and many lives healthier.

Kids who couldn't walk are walking...in fact, running! Malaria, typhoid, pneumonia...all stopped dead in their tracks! Broken bones, internal injuries, eye surgeries...all diagnosed and healed.



By the end of 2015, you had supported the education of 29 Secondary School students...three of which graduated in December...none of which would have attended school without you!

Food, clothing, life basics...all possible because you supported the efforts of Olalo.

The cost to impact so many lives isn't very much to most of us, but to those we were able to help, it meant the world!

We thank God for blessing our efforts through Olalo and we thank you for partnering with us to make a difference!

Nyasaye Ogwedhu! Merry



**You Did It! Thank You!
December & GlobalGiving!**



For the month of December, Olalo worked through the nonprofit GlobalGiving (GG), to raise funds for our medical fund and new multi-vitamin distribution program.

GG is an internationally recognized nonprofit that helps raise funds for hundreds of nonprofits around the world. Having a place on GG gives Olalo exposure to people around the globe looking for a reputable, safe organization in which to donate.

The plan is to give 500 kids/families a vitamin a day annually. A one month supply would cost \$60 and leave the balance of funds to continue to pay for urgent medical needs.

Why would Olalo partner with another non-profit for this project since we already have a medical fund?



We've already received donations from around the world during December, from people we would never reach otherwise with the message of our mission.

The minimum goal to gain
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a permanent place on GlobalGiving was to raise \$5000 from at least 40 unique donors in the month of December. It was a tall order, but we knew whether we met that goal or not, our medical fund was growing and we would be able to help so many more people.

With a lot of prayer and support from others, many of you... we were blessed to exceed the goal we set of \$8200 even before the end of the month and had 60 unique donors. We are now able to place additional

projects on GG and reach an expanded audience.

Having projects on GG doesn't change Olalo and how we operate or accept donations. We will continue on as we always have before GlobalGiving, but we will now have the added benefit of using their site to reach an audience we would never have been able to reach before for upcoming projects!



Kids for Kids

His mom always read the Olalo newsletter to him and so when we began our December project to raise funds for urgent medical needs in Oyugis, he asked for a cup to fill with change so he could help "his kids" in Africa.

He's 7 years old and decided helping kids on the other side of the world was what he wanted more than anything. No presents for Christmas he said, just money for "his kids" in Africa.

Everywhere he went, the cup went with him. He studied the family calendar for December to see all the places he could bring his cup to ask for change. Family, neighbors, strangers on the street he asked to donate.

He even appeared before their city council with his sister to talk about his mission AND got donations from each council member. Even people in the audience came over to drop money into his cup. Soon he told his mom he increased his goal to raise \$1000 and needed a bigger cup.

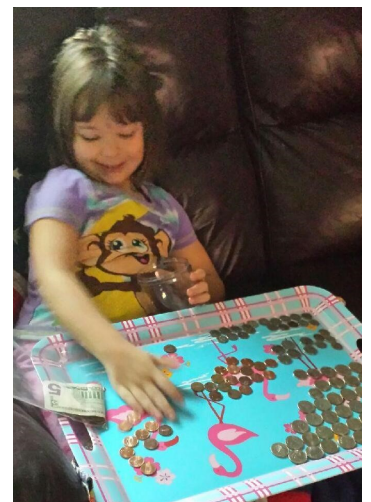


A week before Christmas the family planned to present the donations to Olalo, but the date changed after he told Santa he only wanted \$20 for his kids in Africa for Christmas. He told his mom they needed to wait until after Christmas to drop off the donations to see if Santa did indeed bring him the \$20. (He did.)

It was a special day when they came to present Olalo with the \$201.40 he had collected for his kids in Africa and to meet this amazing young man! He was touched by the plight of kids less fortunate than him that he would forgo even Christmas presents to focus all his attention and energies on helping others on the other side of the world.

Olalo presented him (and his sister), with Kenyan bracelets made by the Masai, a photo book we put together with kids and families we've helped medically or with education, and a couple cans of Silly String.

He also took with him a little piece of our hearts. He is a Super Star!



Another Super Star!
Brooklynn counting her
money for Olalo!

Exciting Addition for 2016

Sonko Omondi has longed dreamed of giving kids in Oyugis an opportunity to help break the cycle of poverty by giving them access to computers and computer training. That dream is about to become reality...with your help!

Most kids in Oyugis have zero computer skills or even access to a computer. The lab will provide the training necessary to compete in today's world and give them a competitive edge in finding work at the end of their educational pursuits. It will also be used as a resource for their current studies.

Olalo has already secured a building for the computer lab and has started the work of making the necessary improvements to the building to support the lab.

We plan to offer weekly computer classes taught by trained instructors initially to students and young people, but our intention is to offer classes to adults in the community as well to give them marketable skills to improve their lives.

We don't expect students or community members to have the ability to pay for classes and there will be no cost to the participants who are unable to pay. The purchase of a printer/fax can be used for local businesses who do not have that capability, and income from that resource will be put back into the computer lab.

Local community members will be hired thereby contributing back into the local economy, and short term internships to some older students will give them the opportunity to learn business management skills and responsibility. We also want to give our younger computer students opportunities to participate in the operation of the computer lab by doing miscellaneous chores around the lab as needed.

We are so excited about the possibilities of changed lives our computer lab will offer to both young and old, and hope you too will catch the vision and donate to support the computer lab.



- ◆ *He lives with his grandmother and fishes in Lake Victoria whenever he is not in class to raise money for his school fees. This last term, when he didn't return to school when classes started again, the Vice Principal went searching for him. He found him still at the lake, trying to catch enough fish to return to class. He is an excellent student with much potential, so in an extreme unconventional action, the VP took him back to school and asked Olalo for help.*
- ◆ *He lives with his brother because his mother is now in the hospital and may not survive. His father died 2 years ago. He washes cars to get money for food. He would like to return to school and continue his education.*
- ◆ *She was in school until the fees could no longer be paid. She is the oldest of 3 children and while at home helps her mother with the small farm that provides food for the family. Her father died when she was just a little girl.*
- ◆ *She is an orphan, living with her elderly grandmother who cannot pay school fees. There is no one to help her.*

The stories are generally the same – poverty, deaths or illness prevents kids from getting an education.

Sponsoring a specific child isn't necessary and all donations directed to our education fund will help cover costs of getting kids in school.

If you would like to sponsor a specific child and correspond with them, the cost is just \$37 a month to cover tuitions, uniforms, books, supplies and 2 meals a day. Students can be sponsored by a group to share the cost. Payments can be made monthly, quarterly or for the full year.

We have 30 plus kids waiting to see if they can go to school. Would love to see them all in school in 2016!





I'd like to introduce our newest Board member at Olalo, Kay Knee.

Kay joined the Board early last year and is a valued member of our team. She brings a fresh perspective and vibrant enthusiasm for all the work Olalo is doing in Oyugis. She is a great asset to Olalo and we are so thrilled to have her!

Merry

My name is Kay Knee and I have been a board member of Olalo of Hope for about a year.

My work background is in nursing with 30+ years in the operating room, but more importantly, my family history is my husband of 36 years, Steve, and my 3 adults kids whom I treasure! I am a native Oregonian and live just 3 blocks from where I grew up!

To witness, through Olalo of Hope and the Broughals, the generous gifts of donors is a most amazing opportunity. Education, to rise out of poverty; medical care, at its most basic, to preserve and save lives; the awareness of these kids that someone they don't even know cares about THEM. It is such an honor to serve with such an organization.

Life halfway around the world is quite different from what we experience here, yet family, relationships, faith are at the core of all of us.

Thank you for caring!
Kay

How to find us....

On the Web: www.olalo.org

FaceBook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Olalo-of-Hope-Kenya>

Email: Olalo.of.hope@gmail.com

Mail: Olalo of Hope-Kenya
PO Box 1476
Clackamas, OR 97015

If you do not wish to receive our newsletter, please ask to have your name removed from our mailing list.

Employee Match Program

Recently Olalo became part of the NIKE Employee Match Program after a NIKE employee requested Olalo of Hope-Kenya be added to their eligible list of nonprofits.

After Olalo was vetted by a third party organization, we were approved to be part of their program.

Our first donation actually came from a Microsoft employee, so it appears the parent organization, Benevity, has also placed Olalo on their list as well.

If you know any NIKE or Microsoft employees, ask them to check into Olalo of Hope-Kenya on their company site and donate for an employer match.

We currently have two projects listed—our education fund and raising funds for our new computer lab.

Since the sites we are listed on are closed to anyone outside the company, Olalo has no way to let employees know we are there except through word of mouth.

It's an awesome way to "double" a donation. We are grateful for the opportunity to be part of the match programs and so appreciate your help by spreading the word!

Olalo of Hope-Kenya is a faith-based nonprofit working in the east African country of Kenya.

Our Mission is to help break the cycle of poverty by building strong communities by working with various partners and communities to empower individuals and families with opportunities for the furtherance of education, healthcare and skills needed to affect life change within their communities.

Remember to designate which program you want to direct your donations to. Without a specific program designation, funds are put into the General Fund and used as needs arise for education, medical, missionary support or community support.

Olalo of Hope-Kenya has no paid staff and is an all volunteer organization.

Olalo Programs include:
School Tuition, Uniforms, School Supplies
Change for Change Medical Fund
Community Support
Orphan Care
Missionary Team Support.